

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: Midland Coal and Iron Company Building Inventory Number: AL-VI-B-167  
Address: 15321 Lower Georges Creek Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Midland Zip Code: 21542 County: Allegany  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Lonaconing  
Property Owner: Roy Droll Tax Account ID Number: 18 009358  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 109 Tax Map Number: 47  
Project: MD 36 over Elk Lick Run and Georges Creek Agency: State Highway Administration  
Agency Prepared By: State Highway Administration  
Preparer's Name: Melissa Hess Date Prepared: 08/04/2004  
Documentation is presented in: MIHP form AL-VI-B-167  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no  
Site visit by MHT Staf ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Property and Justification:** *(Please attach map and photo)*

In the mid nineteenth century, major advances in regional transportation, such as the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, fueled growth in the Georges Creek Coal Region. In 1857, the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad built a line between Frostburg and Lonaconing, connecting a growing number of mining towns along the George's Creek. The Midland Coal and Iron Company built a building in the area that would become the mining village of Gilmore. Like many other companies in the valley, the Midland Coal and Iron Company initially provided dwellings for its miners and later sold building lots to employees (Ware 1991: 28).

Many coal companies consolidated in the period following the Civil War. In 1864, the Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Company bought the assets of the Midland Coal and Iron Company (Dorsey 1982: 3). An advertisement of the sale list included a "dump house with office" and a "store house." The Midland Coal and Iron Company Building could have been either of these buildings (Dorsey 1980: 3). In 1884, the Brennan family bought the building along with a quarter acre of land. Coal production peaked in 1907 and declined substantially in the 1930s when most deep mines closed. Today, the Midland Coal and Iron Company Building is used for multiple family housing.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

**MHT Comments:**

Jim Tarlton ✓  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Rekunt  
Reviewer, National Register Program

2/2/05  
Date

3/11/05  
Date

200500054

AL-VI-B-167

Midland Coal and Iron Company Building

Page 2

The building is located on the northwest side of MD 36 in the center of Gilmore. The large rectangular frame building is two-and-one-half stories with a raised basement, four bays wide, and two units deep. It has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Two large, shed roof dormers have been added on the southeast side of the roof, along with a smaller shed roof dormer on the northwest side. Only one of three original interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps remains visible.

The building has seven entrances. Two entrances on the southwestern elevation of the basement once served as store fronts. The southeast elevation has a partially engaged hipped roof porch with metal porch supports. The northeast elevation has a fully engaged, partially enclosed, shed roof porch. The northwest elevation has a modern entrance on the second story, which is accessed by a wooden staircase. All of the building's windows are modern replacements and in some cases have been significantly altered from their original size and shape. The building is sheathed in vinyl siding. The northwest elevation reveals a foundation of irregularly coursed, uncut stone.

The tracks of the former Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad pass directly by the Midland Coal and Iron Company Building's northwest elevation. A long-term resident of Gilmore recalls a passenger platform located between the building and the tracks.

The Midland Coal and Iron Company Building retains its historic location. The building's original design is no longer readily evident, due to large dormers that obscure the historic form, the addition of a shed roof porch sometime in the last two decades, and a heavily altered fenestration pattern. The setting maintains a level of integrity, as the region has not experienced substantial development in the last fifty years. The building sits in a central place in town by railroad tracks, which were once an integral part of the company's operation. Almost none of the building's historic materials are still visible from the exterior of the building. Since its documentation in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties in 1980, the building has undergone a drastic exterior renovation that removed character-defining architectural detail. Semicircular arched attic lights on the gable ends have been replaced with square vinyl sash windows. Originally clad in weatherboard, the building is now covered in vinyl siding. Two of the three chimneys are no longer visible. Wooden porch posts were replaced with metal supports. The building's nineteenth-century workmanship is no longer recognizable. The Midland Coal and Iron Company Building association's is with the region's coal heritage and specifically with the Midland Coal and Iron Company. However, the building has been converted to multiple family housing and no longer reflects its original use. It lacks the feeling of a nineteenth-century coal company building.

The Midland Coal and Iron Company Building is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A). It is not significant for associations with the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). The building does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values. The Midland Coal and Iron Company Building is not being evaluated under Criterion D.

## References

Dorsey, David. Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, Gilmore Survey District AL-VI-B-255. The Maryland Historical Trust, 1982.

Dorsey, David. Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, Midland Coal and Iron Company Building AL-VI-B-167. The Maryland Historical Trust, 1980.

Ware, Donna M. Green Glades & Sooty Gob Piles: The Maryland Coal Region's Industrial and Architectural Past. Crownsville, MD: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1991.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

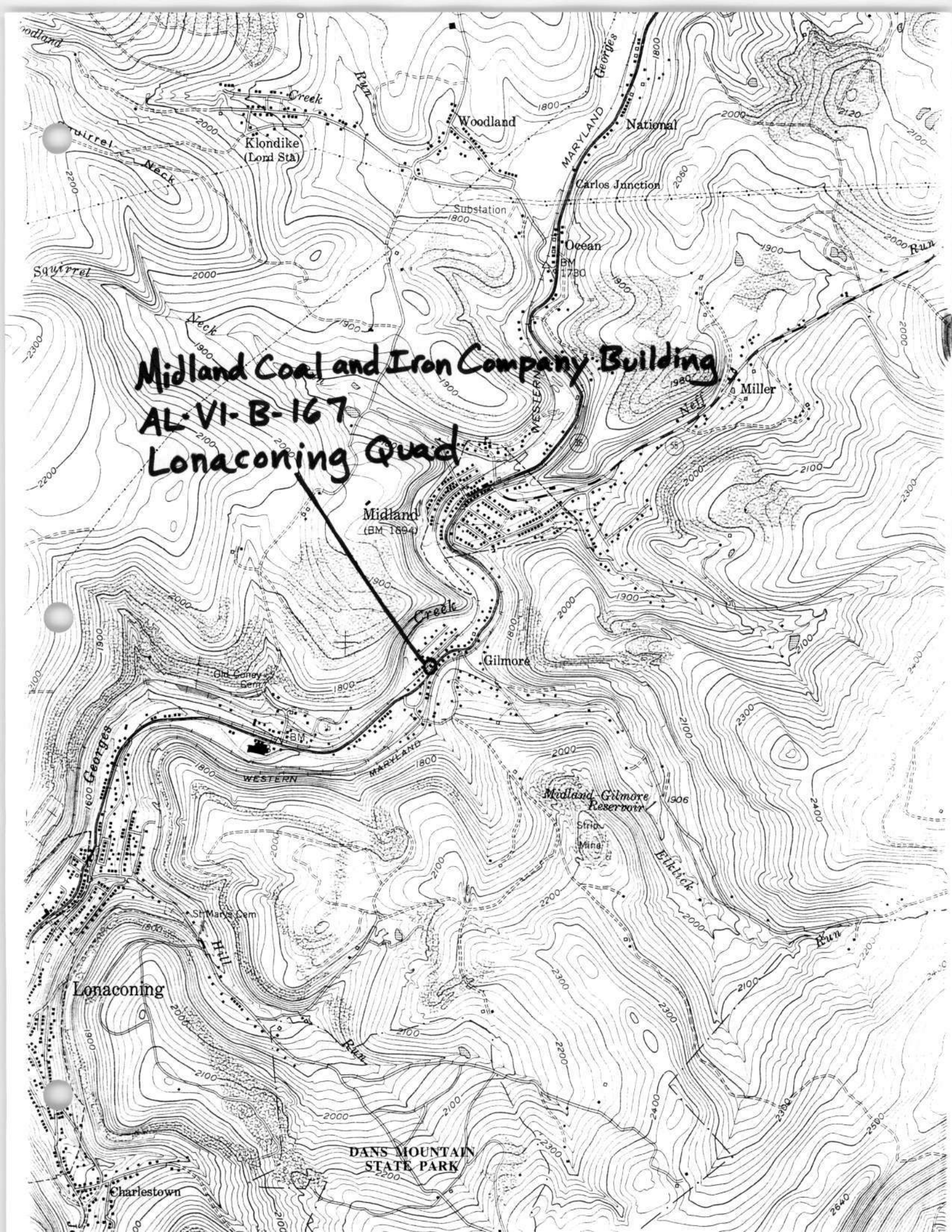
Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Midland Coal and Iron Company Building**  
**AL-VI-B-167**  
**Lonaconing Quad**





AL-VI-B-167 Midland Coal and Iron Building  
Gilmore Survey District

15321 Lower Georges Creek Rd

Allegany

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <NO. 20 >B34  
45B 1717 - 1 N N N-77 <B44>B

L. Buxton

July 2003

Looking West



AL-VI-B-167

Midland Coal and Iron Building

Gilmore Survey District

15321 Lower Georges Creek Rd.

Allegany

ART-2611 <No. 23 >037  
450 1717 -1 N N-3-40 <044>0

MD SHPO

L Buxton

July 2003

Looking West

Midland Coal and Iron Building  
Northwest side of Route 36  
Gilmore, Md.  
AL-VI-B-167

This building is located in the George's Creek coal mining area, in the village of Gilmore. It was apparently built by the Midland Coal and Iron Company early in the second half of the nineteenth century. In 1864 there was an equity case in which the companies property was sold. There was a list of the various buildings for sale, which included a dump house with office and a store house. This building could have been used for either purpose. The Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Comapny bought the property in 1864. In 1884 this building along with a quarter acre of land became privately owned when the Brennan Family purchased it.

The large rectangular frame building is two and one-half stories tall. Two entrances on the southwestern facade of the basement flanked by pairs of fixed windows appear to be store fronts. Double semicircular arched windows are located on the gable ends.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Midland Coal and Iron Co. Building

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Northwest side of Route 36

Sixth

CITY, TOWN

Gilmore

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Roy L. Hartman

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P.O. Box 164

CITY, TOWN

Lonaconing

VICINITY OF

STATE zip code  
Maryland 21539**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 491

Folio #: 426

STREET &amp; NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE  
Maryland 21502**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

AL-VI-B-167

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building consists of a two and one-half story, four bays wide frame building of horizontal planks covered with insul siding. It rests on a high stone foundation of random rubble with a plain water table. The gable front roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves consist of a boxed cornice, soffit, frieze, and returns. Three brick chimneys with corbeled caps are located on the interior.

The building has six entrances. Basement entrances on the southwest have transoms and three panels and one light each. Other entrances are in pairs on the southeast and northeast. Two over two light sash windows are pegged with wooden slipsills. On either side of each of the basement entrances are pairs of fixed one over one light windows with mullions. A pair of semicircular arched one over one light sash windows with mullion are located in each of the gabled ends.

A hip roofed porch on the southeast has square posts. A partially enclosed porch on the northeast has a shed roof supported by turned posts.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

AL-VI-B-167

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is located in the Georges' Creek coal mining area, in the village of Gilmore. It was apparently built by the Midland Coal and Iron Company early in the second half of the nineteenth century. The coal business was growing rapidly at this time due to improved transportation between the coal mines and the head of the railroad and C & O Canal. (1) Many small companies were formed, the Midland Coal and Iron Company being one of them. In 1864 there was an equity case in which the companies property was sold. There was an advertisement for the sale with a list of the mining buildings. There were two in particular listed, a dump house with office and a store house. (2) This building could have been for either of them. The Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Company bought the property in 1864. (3) In 1884 this building along with a quarter acre of land became privately owned when it was sold to the Brennan family. (4)

The large rectangular frame building is two and one-half stories tall. Two entrances on the southwestern facade of the basement flanked by pairs of fixed windows appear to be store fronts. Double semicircular arched windows are located on the gable ends.

- (1) Harry I. Stegmaier, Jr. et al Allegany County- A History (Parsons, W. Va. McClain Printing Co. ) p. 141
- (2) Allegany Equity #1416, Exhibit #1
- (3) Allegany County Land Records, Liber 21, Folio 511
- (4) Ibid, Liber 61, Folio 362

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Stegmaier, Harry Jr. et al. Allegany County, A History Parsons W Va. : McClain  
 Printing Co. ) 1976  
 Allegany County Land Records  
 Allegany County Equity

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA** 328'x54'

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator  
 Julie Baker, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites

DATE

January 15, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland, Md. 21502

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH

Midland Coal and Iron Company Building  
AL-VI-B-167

Allegany County Deed: Liber 491, Folio 426  
Grantee: Roy L. Hartman  
Grantor: Darrel Lee Carder

Date: February 17, 1977

Allegany County Deed: Liber 487, Folio 316  
Grantee: Darrel Lee Carder  
Grantor: Carl E. Shaw

Date: July 9, 1976

Allegany County Deed: Liber 472, Folio 277  
Grantee: Carl E. Shaw  
Grantor: Lielia S. Warnick

Date: July 2, 1974

Allegany County Deed: Liber 449, Folio 172  
Grantee: Lielia S. Warnick  
Grantor: Eugene P. Merrbach and Gertrude B. Merrbach

Date: October 19, 1971

Allegany County Deed: Liber 412, Folio 474  
Grantee: Eugene P. Merrbach and Gertrude B. Merrbach  
Grantee: Patrica Merrbach Bredden and Jacqueline M. Winebrenner  
Notes: All interest conveyed to Eugene P. Merrbach

Date: September, 1967

Allegany County Will: Estate #8690  
Grantee: Eugene P. Merrbach, Patrica Bredden, and Jacqueline Winebrenner  
Grantor: Mary Kennedy  
Notes: Will describes 2 story frame house of 12 rooms and a large basement

Date: July 21, 1967

Allegany County Deed: Liber 176, Folio 185  
Grantee: Mary Kennedy  
Grantor: Mary E. Carr Price

Date: November 7, 1936

Allegany County Deed: Liber 86, Folio 59  
Grantee: Mary E. Carr  
Grantor: Edward Brennan and Anne Brennan

Date: May 1, 1899  
Consideration: \$250.00

Allegany County Deed: Liber 61, Folio 362  
Grantee: Edward Brennan and Anne Brennan  
Grantor: Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Company  
Notes:  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre

Date: October 24, 1884  
Consideration \$15.00

Allegany County Deed: Liber 21, Folio 511  
Grantee: Hampshire and Baltimore Coal Company  
Grantor: James S. Merriam and Minnie Merriam

Date: May 2, 1864  
Consideration: \$70,000.00

Allegany County Deed: Liber 21, Folio 622  
Grantee: James S. Merriam  
Grantor: Thomas McCaig and William W. McCaig, trustees  
Notes: Trustees for Midland Coal and Iron Company per Equity #1416

Date: April 20, 1864

INVENTORY NO: Photo 222

DATE:

AL-VI-B-167

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minorNAME OF PROPERTY: Large Bldg.LOCATION OF PROPERTY: NW side of Rt 36 GilmoreDIRECTION DWELLING FACES: 230° SW

MAP 47 P. 109

NAME OF OWNER: ROY L. HARTMAN 491/426 328x54 ED 18ADDRESS: RE-~~111~~ 164 Tomacoring 328x54POB 164 Tomacoring 328x54SW side - BasementSTORIES: 1( ) 2( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3( ) 4( $\checkmark$ ) 5( ) 6( $\checkmark$ ) 7( ) ( )WINGS, ADDITIONS: Shed enclosed (partially) porch

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

## WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- ☒ FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)  
☐ BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.  
☐ STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated  
☐ LOG  
☒ OTHER: Coverings insul brick horiz planks

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others in eaves are 2 1/2" w/ mullion semicircular arched windows Both sidesFOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone brickWATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded BrickWINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ) 2/2( $\checkmark$ ) 6/6( ) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( ) Slipsills  
pegged ( $\checkmark$ ) nailed ( ) wide ( ) narrow ( ) mitred ( ) pediment ( )ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: 2 Basement SW 1 light 3p. 3 deco panels 1 light.HARDWARE: original ( ) replaced ( )FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN Slated Trim

Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

2 SIDE ENTRANCES  
FACING Rt 36CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed) returns  
original ( $\checkmark$ ) replaced ( ) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architraveROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers #MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original( ) replaced( )PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed( $\checkmark$ ) hip( $\checkmark$ ) gable( )CHIMNEYS: Number: 3 Brick( $\checkmark$ ) Stone( ) Corbeled( $\checkmark$ ) original( $\checkmark$ ) replaced( )  
Location: Flush end( ) Inside end( ) Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior( $\checkmark$ )

ARCHES: Door &amp; Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

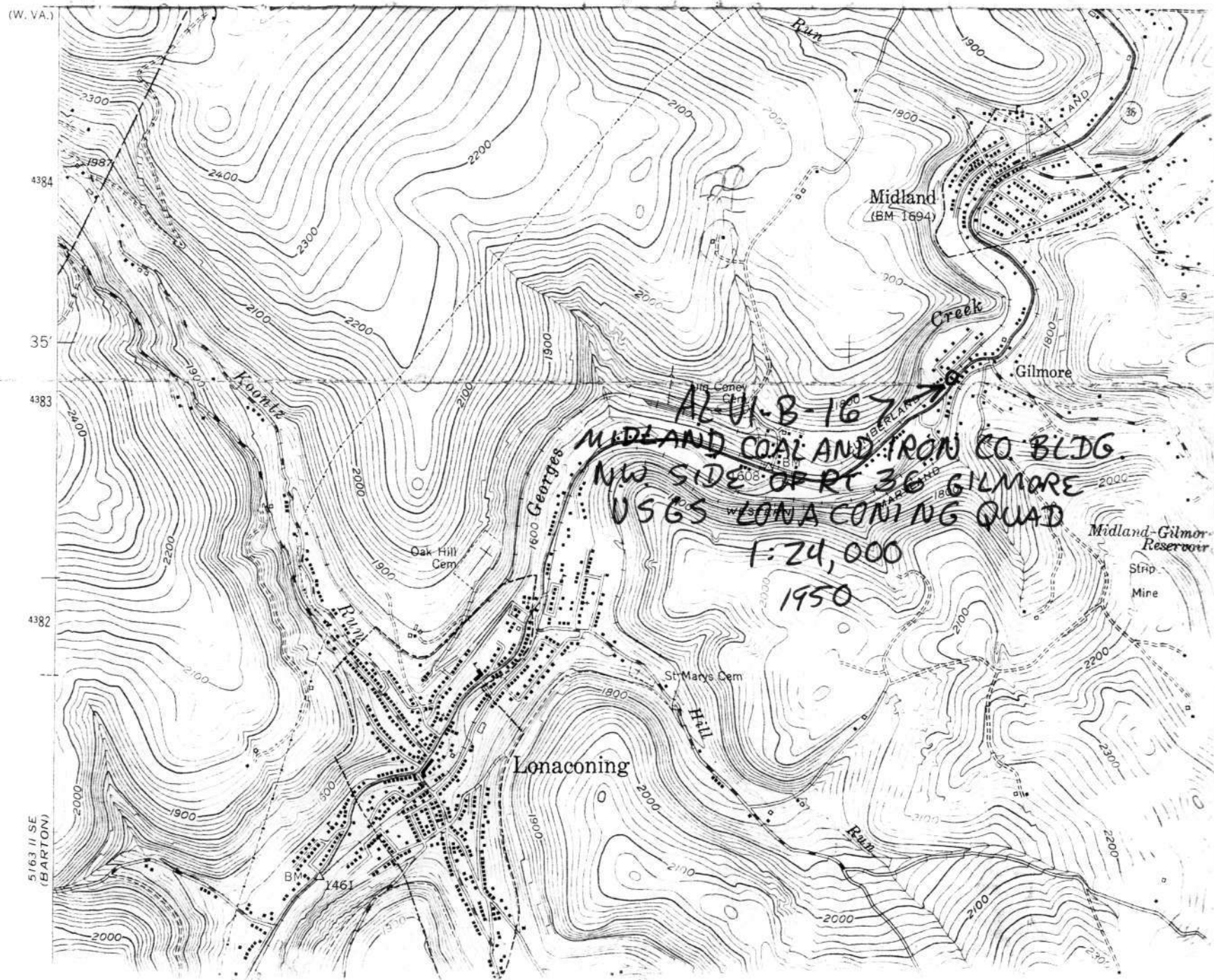
## COMMENTS:

USE:

SIGNIFICANCE:

DATE CONSTRUCTED:

poor





AL-VI-B-167

Midland Coal & Iron Co. Building

N.W. side of route 36, Gilmore

David A. Dorsey 10/18/78

East



AL-VI-B-167

Midland Coal & Iron Co. Building

N.W. side of Route 36, Gilmore

David A. Dorsey

10/18/78

West